We claim:

1.   A method of manufacturing an absorbent and time release material comprising the steps
of:

        providing a pulp from a fibrous material;
        forming said pulp into a block;
        drying said block in a controlled atmosphere;
        impregnating said dried block with a preselected substance;
        grinding said impregnated block to form a powdered material.

2.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said pulp comprises cloth fibers.

3.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said pulp comprises cellulose fibers.

4.   A method according to claim 3, wherein said cellulose fibers are dried paper pulp.

5.   A method according to claim 3, wherein said cellulose fibers are short strand wood fibers.

6.   A method according to claim 3, wherein said cellulose fibers are long strand wood fibers.

7.   A method according to claim 3, wherein said cellulose fibers are wood fibers from the
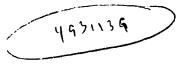processing of wood fiber fluff.

8.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said substance is selected from the group
comprising paraffin wax, beeswax, wax derived from animal products and wax derived from
vegetable products.

9.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said substance is selected from the group
comprising petroleum wax, motor oil and grease.

10.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said pulp includes powdered material selected
from one or more of the following waste material: railway ties, telephone poles, creosote,
powdered coal, calcium oxalate-solids, krofta fines, or bark.

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11.   An absorbent and time release material produced according to the method of claim 1.

12.   A material according to claim 11 used for suppressing fires.

5   13.   A material according to claim 11 used for land reclamation.

14.   A material according to claim 11 used for soil enhancement.

15.   A material according to claim 11 used as a traction agent.

10   16.   A material according to claim 11 used to recover petroleum products resulting from a spill.